

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**  
**QUESTION FOR ORAL REPLY**  
**QUESTION NUMBER 40**

**2 MARCH 2002**

**DR S M VAN DYK (DA) TO ASK THE MINISTER OF FINANCE:**

- (1) Whether only 25 of the 36 state departments tabled their financial statements for the 2003-04 financial year in Parliament by 30 September 2004 in terms of the time frames contained in the Public Finance Management Act, Act 1 of 1999; if so,
- (2) whether only three of the 11 state departments who did not table their financial statements on time submitted written explanations for late submission in terms of the legislation; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (3) whether he himself and the Ministers of the eight remaining state departments also did not submit written explanations to Parliament on why the financial statements were not submitted by the end of October 2004, as required by the Act; if not, what is the position in this regard; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (4) whether (a) 34 of the 160 public entities known to the Auditor General and (b) 50% of the constitutional institutions also did not submit their annual reports and financial statements to Parliament by 30 September 2004; if so, what are the relevant details;
- (5) whether he and the Ministers concerned also did not table written explanations on why these annual reports and financial statements were not submitted; if so, why not? **N232E**

**REPLY:**

- (1) Twenty five (25) of the 34 departments tabled their 2003/2004 financial statements in Parliament by the required date of 30 September 2004. The National Intelligence Agency and the South African Secret

Services tabled their annual reports and financial statements timeously to the Joint Standing Committee on Intelligence and not to Parliament.<sup>1</sup>

(2) There were nine departments that did not meet the tabling deadline. Of these, three departments tabled written explanations for late tabling, as required by section 65(2) of the PFMA. The relevant details may be solicited from the Executive Authorities of the following Departments

- Foreign Affairs;
- Health; and
- Social Development.

(3) The National Treasury, SARS and Statistics South Africa, which reside under the Ministry of Finance, tabled their annual reports and financial statements in Parliament by 28 September 2004, and the Minister of Finance was thus not required to provide a written explanation.

The Honourable Member is directed to the Executive Authorities of the remaining 6 Departments to determine further details.

(4) (a) The Public Finance Management Act currently list 186 public entities of which 22 were not required to table their annual reports and financial statements by 30 September 2004 since their financial year ends are not consistent with that of government (i.e. 31 March). In this regard, 41 of the 164 public entities who are required to table their annual reports and financial statements by 30 September did not meet the tabling requirements.

(b) Three of the 9 constitutional institutions did not submit their annual reports and financial statements timeously which translates to 33% of such institutions not meeting the tabling deadline. Further information may be solicited from the relevant Executive Authorities.

(5) The Ministry of Finance submitted explanations for the late tabling of the Public Investment Commissioners' annual report as required by section 65(2) of the PFMA<sup>2</sup> and the late tabling of the GEPF annual report, with written explanation to Parliament. Further information on

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<sup>1</sup> There are 34 departments. The number by the Honourable Member may include the two other departmental programmes i.e. NIA and SASS, which respectively are included in the budget votes of the South African Police Services and the National Treasury. These two programmes do not submit to Parliament.

<sup>2</sup> The Annual Financial Statements and Annual Report of the Government Employees' Pension Fund (GEPF) is inextricably linked to those of the PIC. The delay in the finalisation and tabling of the AFS and Annual Report of the PIC, changes to the accounting policy, the implementation of a new investment accounting system as well as improvements to the annual report delayed the finalisation of the GEPF's report. A copy of the written explanation for the PIC's late tabling is submitted herewith for ease of reference.

the explanations by other Executive Authorities may be solicited from those Ministers.



# NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

## QUESTION FOR ORAL REPLY

### QUESTION NUMBER 47

01 JUNE 2005

**DR S M VAN DYK (DA) TO ASK THE MINISTER OF FINANCE:[Interdepartmental transfer of Oral Question No 39 from Minister of Public Enterprises on Internal Question Paper No 3 of 22 February 2005]**

- (1) Whether more public entities than listed in schedules 2 and 3 of the Public Finance Management Act, Act 1 of 1999, are operating; if so, how many public entities are currently not listed;
- (2) Whether all the unlisted public entities are known to the Auditor General; if not, what is the position in this regard;
- (3) Whether any legislation exists in terms of which unlisted public entities are prohibited from operating; if not, what budget allocations have been made to these entities in the 2004-05 financial year; if so, what legislation;
- (4) Whether all the unlisted public entities submit their financial statements to the National Treasury every year; if not, why not;
- (5) What control mechanisms and start-up conditions regulate the establishment of public entities?

N231E

#### **REPLY:**

- (1) The listing of unlisted public entities is an ongoing National Treasury function. National Treasury maintains a regular dialogue with the Auditor-General and Departments to track entities and ensure their correct classification and listing according to the PFMA. Therefore the number of unlisted entities cannot be determined at this moment.
- (2) Entities have a legal requirement in terms of the PFMA to submit annual financial statements for auditing to the Auditor General. The National Treasury is not aware of the Auditor General's tracking system for unlisted entities. In addition the Auditor General participated on the Steering Committee for the Review the Governance Framework of Non-Business and Government Business Enterprises operating on National Basis (i.e. Schedule 3A and B of the PFMA).

- (3) Treasury regulation 25.1.(1), (2) and (3) exist and this governs the operations of public entities in general. Transfer payments to entities take place from respective departments. These may be project related or for other funding needs or may be extra-budgetary in nature and, it is the departments' duty to identify these payments or allocations. The consolidated audited financial statements of these entities would reflect these transfer payments.
- (4) In financial year 2003/04, 10 unlisted public entities submitted financial statements and these were incorporated into the Consolidated Financial Information. In terms of section 47 (2) of the PFMA, Accounting Officers or Accounting Authorities are required to ensure the listing of all unlisted public entities is under their control. National Treasury can only report on those entities that are listed.
- (5) Section 38 (1) (m) of the Public Finance Management Act, 1999, accounting officers as stipulated in the Act are mandated to consult immediately and seek prior written consent of the National Treasury should they decide to establish a new entity or are in the process of doing so.

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**  
**QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY**  
**QUESTION NUMBER 894**

**DATE OF PUBLICATION: 3 JUNE 2005**

**MR EW TRENT (DA) TO ASK THE MINISTER OF FINANCE:**

Whether any government department has failed to submit its financial statements to the (a) Auditor-General for auditing and (b) the National Treasury as required by section 40(c) of the Public Finance Management Act, Act 1 of 1999; if so, (i) which departments and (ii) what action has he taken in this regard? **N1195E**

**REPLY:**

- (a) No government departments failed to timeously submit their financial statements to the Auditor-General for auditing purposes during the 2003-2004 Financial Year. Given the above response, questions (i) and (ii) are therefore not applicable.